

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

an alignment layer comprising constituent materials,

the constituent materials including a stoichiometric

5 relationship configured to provide a given pretilt angle;

and

liquid crystal material in contact with the alignment
layer.

10 2. The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the
material includes SiC_x wherein x is adjusted to provide the
stoichiometric relationship.

15 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
material includes silicon oxynitride.

4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
material includes a material having Pi-electrons.

20 5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
alignment layer includes a tilted homeotropic alignment
layer.